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(54) EPIPREMNUM PLANT NAMED 'UFM12'

(50) Latin Name: *Epipremnum aureum* Varietal Denomination: **UFM12**

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(57) ABSTRACT

A new *Epipremnum* plant particularly distinguished by having small variegated leaves with three different colors, irregularly undulated rather than smooth leaf surfaces, and compact and dense growth habit, is disclosed.

2 Drawing Sheets

1

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FEDERAL RESEARCH SUPPORT

This invention was made with government support under 5 FLA-APO-04158 awarded by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, USDA. The government has certain rights in the invention.

Genus and species: *Epipremnum aureum*. Variety denomination: 'UFM12'.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

The invention relates to a new and distinct variety of *Epipremnum* plant, botanically known as *Epipremnum* aureum and hereinafter referred to by the variety denomination of 'UFM12'. 'UFM12' originated by exposing cuttings of *Epipremnum aureum* cultivar 'Marble Queen', not patented, to gamma-ray radiation from a Colbalt 60 source at the Florida Accelerator Services and Technology Division of Plant Industry; Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in Gainesville, Fla. After treatment, the cuttings were grown in a controlled environment in Apopka, Fla. The inventors selected the new *Epipremnum* approximately 1 year later as a single branch mutation within the population of treated plants.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by tip cuttings in a controlled environment in Apopka, Fla. has shown that the unique features of this new *Epipremnum* are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction.

Plant Breeder's Rights for this cultivar have not been applied for. 'UFM12' has not been made publicly available more than one year prior to the filing of this application.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar 'UFM12' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature and light intensity, without, however, any variance in genotype.

2

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'UFM12'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'UFM12' as a new and distinct cultivar of *Epipremnum*:

- 1. Small variegated leaves with three different colors.
- 2. Leaf surfaces tend to be irregularly undulated rather than smooth.
- 3. Compact and dense growth habit.

10

DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

This new *Epipremnum* plant is illustrated by the accompa15 nying photographs which show the plant's overall appearance. These photographs show the colors as true as it is
reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this
type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the
color values cited in the detailed botanical description which
accurately describe the colors of the new *Epipremnum*.

FIG. 1 shows a side perspective view of 3 typical plants of 'UFM12' grown in a 12 cm diameter containers.

FIG. 2 shows a close-up view of typical vines and typical foliar variegation of 'UFM12'.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CULTIVAR

The following detailed description sets forth the distinctive characteristics of 'UFM12' with color terminology in accordance with The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2001 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary significance are used. The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in containers in Apopka, Fla. during the spring and early summer in a glass-covered greenhouse. Plants were grown using practices and under conditions that approximate those generally used in commercial *Epipremnum* production. During the production of the plants, day temperature ranged from about 29° C. to 35° C., night temperature ranged from a bout 18° C. to 26° C. and light levels were about 2,500 foot-candles.